

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 20757 01 OF 02 291903Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----092557 291909Z /42
O 291847Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4070

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20757

NODIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC TECH FR PK
SUBJ: PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT

REF: (A) STATE 165095; (B) PARIS 20555;
(C) PRETORIA 3576

1. SUMMARY: JACOMET REVIEWED WITH EMBOFF CURRENT PLANS FOR JACOMET'S VISIT TO ISLAMABAD AND THE RESULTS OF PONIATOWSKI'S RECENT TRIP TO THERAN. JACOMET WILL VISIT TEHRAN POSSIBLY ON JULY 10, PROBSBLY ON JULY 13, TO INFORM THE GOP OF THE FRENCH DECISION TO STOP FURTHER WORK ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT. PONIATOWSKI RETURNED FROM HIS TRIP TO TEHRAN WITH THE SHAH'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO CONTACT GENERAL ZIA PRIOR TO JACOMET'S VISIT TO TEHRAN TO ENCOURAGE ZIA TO BE MORE CONCERNED WITH REGIONAL STABILITY AND TO FIND WAYS TO WORK WITH THE US TO THAT END; HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE IRANIAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN. WE REVIEWED CIRCUMSTANCES OF REF A WITH JACOMET. JACOMET REMAINS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN WHAT WE CAN DEVELOP FOR INFORMATION ON POTENTIAL IRANIAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN THAT COULD BE USED TO FINANCE THE SALE OF FRENCH PRODUCTS. END

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SUMMARY.

2. ON JUNE 29, ANDRE JACOMET REVIEWED WITH EMBOFF THE CURRENT PLANNING WITHIN THE MFA FOR JACOMET'S TRIP TO ISLAMABAD. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN IS NOW ON VACATION IN FRANCE AND WILL RETURN TO PAKISTAN ON JULY 5. HE IS TO SOUND OUT

CURRENT GOP TEMPERAMENT ON THE REPROCESSING MATTER TO ASSIST JACOMET IN MAKING THE MOST PRODUCTIVE PRESENTATION ON THE FRENCH DECISION. JACOMET HAD PROPOSED TO HIS MINISTER THAT HE ARRIVE IN ISLAMABAD ON JULY 10. THE MINISTER AND SEC GEN SOUTOU, FOR REASONS JACOMET DID NOT SPECIFY, ARE CONSIDERING JULY 13 AS A BETTER DATE FOR JACOMET'S DISCUSSIONS IN ISLAMABAD.

3. WE REVIEWED WITH JACOMET THE PROSPECTS FOR SECRETARY NEWSOM'S TRIP TO ISLAMABAD JULY 15-16. JACOMET SAW SOME BENEFITS TO HIS VISITING ISLAMABAD ON JULY 10 SO AS NOT TO BE TOO CLOSE TO THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR SECRETARY NEWSOM AND HE ALSO SAW THE BENEFIT OF THE JULY 13 DATE WHICH WOULD PROBABLY OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY FOR JACOMET TO BRIEF NEWSOM ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOP PRIOR TO JACOMET'S RETURN TO PARIS. JACOMET PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED ON DEVELOPMENTS IN HIS SCHEDULE AND WE ADVISED THAT WE WOULD KEEP HIM UP TO DATE ON SECRETARY NEWSOM'S SCHEDULE.

4. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO IRAN, PONIATOWSKI VISITED WITH THE SHAH AND INFORMED HIM THAT FRANCE

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WAS ON THE VERGE OF STOPPING THE REPROCESSING PLANT. THE SHAH AGREED TO CONTACT GENERAL ZIA AND TO ENCOURAGE ZIA TO EMPHASIZE MORE OF THE REGIONAL SECURITY NEEDS AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF PAKISTAN AND TO TAKE STEPS NECESSARY TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE US TO THAT END. IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE SHAH WOULD CONTACT ZIA JUS PRIOR TO JACOMET'S VISIT TO ISLAMABAD. UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE GOF, PONIATOWSKI RETURNED WITH NO INFORMATION ON THE POTENTIAL FOR IRANIAN FUNDS FOR FINANCING FRENCH SALES TO PAKISTAN. THE MFA INSTRUCTED ITS AMBASSADOR ON JUNE 28 TO CONTACT THE SHAH AND TO CONFIRM THE SHAH'S WILLINGNESS TO CONTACT ZIA AND TO TRY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON POTENTIAL IRANIAN FUNDS FOR PAKISTANI DEVELOPMENT. ASSUMING THE SHAH REMAINS WILLING TO CONTACT GENERAL ZIA, THE FRENCH INTENT TO ASK HIM TO DO SO A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE JACOMET VISIT.

5. THE MFA HAS DECIDED THAT IT WILL INFORM SAUDI ARABIA OF THE DECISION TO CANCEL THE PLANT AT THE SAME TIME IT INFORMS ISLAMABAD. THIS WILL PROBABLY BE DONE IN PARIS THROUGH THE SAUDI EMBASSY.

6. REGARDING NEWSOM'S DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SHAH, JACOMET FELT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO LIMITATIONS REGARDING THIS SUBJECT AS THE FRENCH HAVE GIVEN THE SECRET

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SHAH FULL INFORMATION ON THE DECISION.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: JACOMET ASKED EMBOFF IF ANY INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED THROUGH US CHANNELS REGARDING GOI POTENTIAL FINANCING FOR PAKISTANI PROJECTS. WE INDICATED THAT NO INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED, BUT THAT AMBASSADOR SMITH HAD REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER MAKING SUCH AN EFFORT (SEE PARA 5 REF C). WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE FOR RESPONSE TO JACOMET ON THIS.

8. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PASS ISLAMABAD AND TEHRAN. HARTMAN

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